

Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove Pentecost 12, 2024 Sunday 11 August



Song: Let us Build a House Where Love Can Dwell

Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live.
A place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace.
Here the love of Christ shall end
divisions:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where prophets
speak,
and words are strong and true.
Where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace.
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where love is
found,
in water, wine and wheat.
A banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space,
as we share in Christ the feast that frees
us;
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

Acknowledgement of Country

Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. Ephesians 5.1-2

Let us build a house where hands will
reach
beyond the wood and stone.
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face.
Let us bring an end to fear and danger;
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where all are
named,
their songs and visions heard.
And loved and treasured, taught and
claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace.
Let this house proclaim from floor to
rafter;
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Tune: TWO OAKS, with
refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Copyright ©
1994 by GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason
Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com.
800-442- 1358. All rights reserved. Used by
permission.

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Unseen God,
drawing all people
to the end of our desires:
teach us to know
true bread from false
and to feed on him
who shares our flesh
to share your love,
Jesus Christ, our communion.
Amen.

2 Samuel 18: 5-9, 14, 31-33

⁵ The king gave orders to Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom.' And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom. ⁶ So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. ⁷ The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. ⁸ The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword. ⁹ Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on. ¹⁴ Joab said, 'I will not waste time like this with you.' He took three spears in his hand, and thrust them into the heart of Absalom, while he was still alive in the oak. ³¹ Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, 'Good tidings for my lord the king! For the Lord has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up

against you.’ ³² The king said to the Cushite, ‘Is it well with the young man Absalom?’ The Cushite answered, ‘May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man.’ ³³ The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, ‘O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would that I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!’

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 130

¹ Out of the depths
have I called to you, O Lord;
² Lord, hear my voice;
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
³ If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss,
O Lord, who could stand?
⁴ For there is forgiveness with you;
therefore you shall be feared.
⁵ I wait for you, O Lord; my soul waits for you;
in your word is my hope.
⁶ My soul waits for you, O Lord,
more than sentinels for the morning,
more, than sentinels for the morning.
⁷ O Israel, wait for the Lord,
for with the Lord there is mercy;
⁸ with whom there is plenteous redemption,
and who shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Ephesians 4: 25-5:2

²⁵ So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another. ²⁶ Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸ Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labour and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹ Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹ Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³² and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. ¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ² and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Song: I heard the Voice of Jesus Say (TiS 585)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter 6 beginning at verse 24.
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

John 6: 35; 41-51

³⁵ Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.’ ⁴¹ Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, ‘I am the bread that came down from heaven.’ ⁴² They were saying, ‘Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, “I have come

down from heaven”?’⁴³ Jesus answered them, ‘Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴ No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵ It is written in the prophets, “And they shall all be taught by God.” Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶ Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷ Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰ This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.’

For the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon - www.stpaulsashgrove.org.au/sermons/

Silence

Nicene Creed

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

**God of the nations,
whose sovereign rule brings justice and peace,
have mercy on our broken and divided world.
Shed abroad your peace in the hearts of all
and banish from them the spirit that makes for war,
that all races and peoples may learn to live
as members of one family
and in obedience to your law,
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**God who made our home,
And made your home with us,
Yet often had no place to lay your head,
Have mercy today on all who have no home.
Provide shelter and protection, A future and a hope,
To all whose beds tonight will be unsafe, unstable or exposed.
Grant wisdom and compassion,
To everyone with power or resources
To provide housing solutions,
So that all may live in peace
And share with equity and thanksgiving
The good things you provide
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

God has called us to exercise loving, compassionate leadership in creation.

Silence

Let us attend to the ways we have acted from fear or greed, and commit ourselves once again to following God's call.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

God, who is merciful and gracious, grant you
Freedom where sin has trapped you,
Healing where sin has wounded you,
And strength where sin has weakened you.
Receive forgiveness and return to your communities
To bring healing and hope. Amen

We are the body of Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Song: O God, be Merciful To Me

O God, be merciful to me
Because your love is strong;
Now wash me from iniquity
And cleanse me from all wrong.

I try to make it on my own
As if I'm all I need,
Until I find I'm all alone,
Wrapped up in pride and greed.

These words are old, but still they live
Within our hearts today.
We cry to you: "O God, forgive!"
And "Wash our sins away!"

Yet this is not the final word,
For you forgive our sin!
When we return to you, O Lord,
You give us joy again.

My sin has kept me far from you;
Your wrath is justified.
Why is it, Lord? — The things I do
Have crushed my bones inside!

Tune: Jessie Seymour Irvine, 1872 ("The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want") Text: Copyright © 2006 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

The collection bowl will be passed around to support the ministry of St Paul's. Most members give electronically through their bank. St Paul's bank details are Name: Ithaca-Ashgrove Anglican Parish BSB: 704901 Acc No: 00004420

...and the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...and sing together the eternal song:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

...Do this in remembrance of me.'
**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

...all glory is yours, eternal God, now and for ever.
**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

***Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.***

...and feed on him in our hearts by faith
with thanksgiving.

*Please come forward to receive the bread and wine. Gluten free wafers are available (please ask).
If you prefer not to receive communion, please come forward for a blessing (keep your hands
behind your back). You are welcome to kneel at the communion rail. If you prefer to stand, please
stand in the middle section. For the safety of all in the community we ask you to:*

- *Use hand sanitiser before receiving the bread and wine*
- *do not dip the bread in the wine*
- *Take wine only if you are free from symptoms and from anxiety about drinking from the common cup. Be assured that Christ is present in you and for you as you receive the bread alone.*

...and bring us to the joys you promise.

**Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.**

Announcements

Song: The Summons (SPHB 29)

Please stand and turn to face the back for the blessing

Blessing

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord: **In the name of Christ. Amen**

ST PAUL'S NOTICEBOARD

Join us for morning tea after the 9/8.30am service!

We are hoping to have the church open more often, to be a place of peace for our community. If you would like to volunteer to sit in church (read, knit, etc) so we can have the doors open, please let Rev Margaret know.

Upcoming events

Fri 16 Aug **Peace Vigil**, 6pm. Please RSVP to Rev Margaret, the office or you can write your name on the whiteboard at the back of the church.

Sun 18 Aug Combined service - **Parish Council Meeting**, after morning tea

Sun 25 Aug **Defibrillator training** (after the 9am service) for those wanting to be trained in the use of the device.

Mon 26 Aug **Book Club** in the Crypt, **7.30pm**. All are welcome. The current book is *The Little Liar* by Mitch Albom (author of *Tuesdays with Morrie* and *Five People You Meet in Heaven*)

Fri 6 Sept **Taize** (6pm in the church) followed by a meal at a local restaurant - please contact Rev Pam or John Hynd if you are interested in joining.

Sat 7 Sept **Practically Spiritual**, 8.30am in the Crypt - a group that meets once a month to reflect on theological books. Please chat to Revd Kathy.

Fri 27 – Sat 28 Sept **Bookfest** - with craft and plant stall!

Fri 29 Nov – Sun 1 Dec **The 5th Annual Silent Northern Lay Retreat**, themed 'Peace That The World Cannot Give'. Forms can be collected at the back of the church. For any further questions you can contact Nerida Murray 0411 052 292 or neridamurray@me.com

Jubilee Terrace Playgroup - weekly on a Friday from 9.30-11.30am during school terms. \$4 per week to cover cost. Registered Playgroup with Play Matters.

Bible Study and Morning Prayer every Wednesday morning during school terms. **Prayer** from 9:05am and **Bible Study** from 9.45. Everyone welcome!

For your prayers

Ian and Kirsty, Phoebe, Chris and their families, Rev Shane at St Lucia Parish, Baby Sal and his mother Belle and father George, Georgia, Sue J and Wayne. We hold in our prayers Noel and Joy who are at home or in a nursing home. Pray for the continuing recovery of Maureen M, Rev Jack, Cherilee and Sam. We also give thanks for Rev Jack and Rev Kathy in their ministry to several parishes in the Diocese and the LAMB Medical Ministry in Bangladesh.

Thank you for the life of Sylvia. Pray for Jenny, John, Revd Margaret and their family during this time of loss.

Contact: Rev Dr Margaret Wesley, margaret.wesley@anglicanchurchsq.org.au, 0424 214 924. Rev Margaret's day off is Thursday. Parish Office, parish.office@stpaulsashgrove.org.au, 07 3366 2320 (open Wed and Fri mornings).

